



Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116
Expedited Procedure
Examining Group: 1631

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Marshall Z. SCHWARTZ

Serial No.: 09/931,112

Confirmation No.: 3767

Filed: August 17, 2001

Docket No.: 06510003PB

Corres. and Mail

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Group Art Unit: 1631

Examiner: BORIN, Michael L.

**For: TREATMENT OF INTESTINAL EPITHELIAL CELL MALFUNCTION,
INFLAMMATION OR DAMAGE WITH HEPATOCYTE GROWTH FACTOR**

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated July 26, 2004 ("Final Office Action") and further to the interview conducted with Examiner Borin and Supervisor Woodward on October 15, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests consideration of this application in view of the following Remarks and the Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 filed concurrently herewith, which removes three of the four references relied upon in the outstanding 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection and places the application in clear condition for allowance or, in the alternative, in better form for appeal.

REMARKS begin on page 2.

CONCLUSION begins on page 14